IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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In re Application of:

Richard L. Giroux, et al.

Serial No.: 10/772.217

Confirmation No.: 2193

Filed:

February 2, 2004

For: APPA

APPARATUS AND

METHODS FOR DRILLING A WELLBORE USING

CASING

MAIL STOP AMENDMENT Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Group Art Unit: 3672

Examiner: William P. Neuder

Customer No. 36735

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION DATED APRIL 23, 2007

In response to the Office Action dated April 23, 2007, having a shortened statutory period for response set to expire on July 23, 2007, please enter this response and reconsider the claims pending in the application for reasons discussed below. Although Applicants believe that no additional fees are due in connection with this response, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge counsel's Deposit Account No. 20-0782/WEAT/0344.P1/JCH, for any fees, including extension of time fees or excess claim fees, required to make this response timely and acceptable to the Office.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Amendments Remarks/Arguments begin on page 9 of this paper.